



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Proposed Bill No. 5991**

LCO No. 1828

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:

REP. JOHNSON, 49th Dist.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO DRY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended as follows: (a) For the  
2 purposes of this section, "governing body" means any municipality,  
3 political subdivision of the state, fire district, sewer district, village,  
4 beach or improvement association or any other district or association  
5 or any condominium or cooperative association; and "direct solar  
6 energy" means direct sunlight or ambient outside air warmed by  
7 sunlight.

8 (b) No governing body may impose an ordinance, regulation or  
9 other restriction prohibiting the drying of clothes using direct solar  
10 energy through the use of clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus  
11 in any residential setting.

12 (c) No deed restrictions, covenants, landlord-tenant agreements,  
13 private contracts or similar binding agreements running with the land  
14 shall prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, the drying of clothes  
15 using direct solar energy through the use of clotheslines, drying racks

16 or other apparatus in any residential setting, provided such  
17 clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus do not affect public  
18 safety, including, but not limited to, hampering access to public  
19 buildings or impeding rapid emergency egress.

20 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, a governing body  
21 may prohibit the drying of clothes using direct solar energy through  
22 the use of clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus in any  
23 residential setting if (1) nonpermanent alternatives, such as folding  
24 racks, would provide the same drying service as permanent  
25 installations of clotheslines and supporting structures; (2) functionally  
26 equivalent alternate drying facilities, such as indoor drying rooms, are  
27 available, provided said facilities do not rely on the use of electricity or  
28 fossil fuels specifically for drying; or (3) such prohibitions incorporate  
29 aesthetic considerations, provided such restrictions do not  
30 substantially interfere with access to direct solar energy for drying  
31 purposes.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To facilitate energy conservation.